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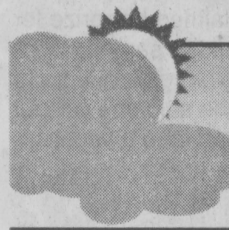
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MOSTLY CLOUDY

High: 55
Low: 26For Thursday:
Chance of rain
High: 46 Low: 40

Feb. 16, 2000



the Parthenon

www.marshall.edu/parthenon

Volume 101 Number 62

Marshall University's student newspaper — Celebrating 101 years!

Page edited by Andrea Copley

Bush, McCain square off in debate

GOP candidates discuss negative ads; clash over abortion, taxes and campaign finance

by GLEN JOHNSON
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — George W. Bush and John McCain swapped charges of negative campaigning Tuesday night in a close quarters debate, their final clash before the pivotal South Carolina primary. "You should be ashamed," McCain

lectured his rival.

"Don't compare me to Bill Clinton," Bush snapped back.

The two men and Alan Keyes also clashed over abortion, taxes and campaign finance and found common ground on foreign policy in a 90-minute encounter, but the debate crackled when the topic turned to negative campaigning.

McCain, the Arizona senator, said he had ordered his staff days ago to stop running all negative ads.

But the Texas governor, seated scarcely three feet away, waved a printed flyer that he said attacked him harshly and had turned up on a car windshield earlier in the day.

"That is not by my campaign," McCain said.

"It says paid for by John McCain," was Bush's instant rejoinder.

The rapid back and forth between the two men left Keyes to complain about the tone. "Is this the kind of pointless squabbling we really want them to see," he said of a television audience watching CNN's broadcast. The studio audience applauded.

Moderator Larry King of CNN made no attempt to interrupt the squabble, though, as Bush and McCain recited grievances against one another stemming from several heated weeks of campaigning for the Republican

presidential nomination.

McCain stunned Bush, the national front-runner, two weeks ago with a landslide victory in New Hampshire's primary, and South Carolina shapes up as a pivotal test for the two men. The state votes on Saturday, and recent polls point to a close contest. Bush runs strongly among registered Republicans in the surveys, but McCain gains strength from independents, who are permitted to vote.

There were handshakes all

around as Bush, McCain and Keyes took their seats around King's interview table. And the opening moments of the 90-minute encounter seemed more a seminar on foreign policy than a debate in the heat of a presidential campaign.

All three men said the United States should build a national anti-ballistic missile system despite a Cold War-era treaty that forbids it, and called for

Please see **CANDIDATES, P3**



The New York City Opera National Company presents Gioacchino Rossini's 'The Barber of Seville' at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Keith-Albee Theatre.

Musicals come to town

by CHARLENE L. CORNELL
reporter

Those who appreciate theater are heading to the Marshall Artists Series' box office as two musicals, "The Barber of Seville" and "Camelot," come to Huntington.

The New York City Opera National Company will present "The Barber of Seville" at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Keith-Albee Theatre.

"It is funny," said Angela Jones, director of marketing and external affairs for the Marshall Artists Series. "It will be a great night of music and comedy."

"The Barber of Seville" is a comic tale of love, intrigue and mischief. Figaro, the town barber, learns Count Almaviva loves Rosina, the intended wife of Dr. Bartolo. Rosina returns Count Almaviva's feelings and tosses him a love note. Figaro plans an elopement for the two as he uses a series of disguises that bring the lovers together at the last moment.

The play by Gioacchino Rossini contains memorable phrases such as "Figaro! Figaro! FI-GA-RO!"

It made its stage debut in

1816. It was the second most produced opera of the 1998-1999 season, according to OPERA America's Web site.

The production will be in Italian with English supertitles projected. Supertitles are simultaneous visual translations that allow patrons to understand the action.

"Students shouldn't be intimidated by the opera," Jones said.

"Camelot" is a story of love, desire and betrayal. The musical recounts King Arthur's holy quest for a right society. It traces the marriage of King Arthur and Guenevere and the events that lead to demise of Arthur's dreams and his love for Guenevere.

It contains the songs "If Ever I Would Leave You," "C'est Moi," "How to Handle a Woman," "What do the Simple Folk Do?" and "Camelot."

"Camelot" will be at 8 p.m. March 8 at the Keith-Albee Theatre.

Students can pick up tickets for "Camelot" starting today.

"Barber of Seville" tickets are currently available.

Tickets may be purchased at the Marshall Artists Series Box Office located in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse. Box



photo courtesy of Marshall Artists Series

Guenevere and Lancelot fall in love in the play "Camelot," which opens at the Keith-Albee stage at 8 p.m. March 8.

office hours are 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Full-time students can receive one free ticket and a guest ticket at half-price with a Marshall ID. Part-time students, faculty and staff can purchase two tickets at half-price with a Marshall ID. Each student may bring only two Marshall IDs when picking up tickets.

SGA approves new election commissioner

Three student groups to receive money for trips; petition drive begins today

by RHANDA M. FARMER
reporter

The Student Senate approved Shannon Dean as the spring 2000 election commissioner Tuesday.

Student Government Association President Brandi Jacobs introduced Dean to the senate as her choice for the new election commissioner.

"I thought it would be nice to have someone not affiliated with student government to run the election," Jacobs said.

Dean is a resident adviser and also is affiliated with the Women's Studies program.

Dean said she understands the demands of her new position, but doesn't see it as a conflict with her other activities.

"I don't think I'll have a problem," Dean said.

"I'll have to balance my job as

an RA and my schoolwork.

"I'm quite confident that I can handle it. Pressure makes diamonds," she said.

The senate approved three bills allocating money to student organizations. Lambda Alpha Epsilon, the Newman Catholic Center and the Women's Studies Student Association all received funding.

Lambda Alpha Epsilon received \$500 for a trip to a national convention in Indianapolis, Ind., for criminal justice majors.

College of Business Sen. Rocco Rossetti said, "It will be an opportunity to participate in different activities. The FBI, ATF, and hopefully the CIA will all have representatives there."

Seven or eight members of the organization will attend.

The Newman Catholic Center received funding to send members to an annual retreat for continued leadership training.

Father Bill Petro, representative for the center, said, "It's a means for continued involvement in campus life, to look back at what we've done and ahead at what we're going to do."

Twelve members have signed up for the retreat. Twenty members are expected to attend.

Funds also were allocated to the Women's Studies Student Association. The organization will attend a national conference in Baltimore, Md., to develop leadership skills.

"It's a national conference on not only women's issues, but also minority issues and sexual orientation issues," Jacobs said. "It's for the empowerment of lots of people, not just women."

SGA will begin a petition drive today in the Memorial Student Center. The petitions concern a proposed housing project and the establishment of the online posting of class syllabi and student access to faculty evaluations.

SGA will have a table in the MSC lobby until Feb. 23. Senators will not always be available, but copies of the petition will be available to sign at any time.

Applications are still being accepted for the spring Student Senate election. They are available in MSC 2W29B and will be taken until 4:30 p.m. Feb. 29.

Curtain rises today for 'Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?'

by CHARLENE L. CORNELL
reporter

Marshall University's Department of Theatre presents its first play of 2000 today with "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"

David Hall and Teresa Wilson (George and Martha) invite a young couple, Herschel Jeffrey and Jean Cheek (Nick and Honey) to their home for a night cap.

As the evening progresses, inhibitions are forgotten and old injuries are refreshed. George and Martha are faced with the tragedy that pervades their marriage.

Curtain time is 8 p.m. today through Saturday in the Francis-Booth Experimental Theatre.

Tickets are available at the box office in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse. Box office hours are 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Tickets are free to full-time Marshall students with a



photo by Charlene L. Cornell

David Hall, left, and Herschel Jeffrey rehearse a scene this past Thursday for "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"

Marshall ID. Part-time students can purchase tickets at a reduced price with their

Marshall IDs.

The show contains adult language and situations.



Participants in the Black United Students Talent Night sing Tuesday in Marco's in the basement of the Memorial Student Center.

Students celebrate heritage through songs, poems

by COURTNEY M. ROSS
reporter

The sound of music could be heard coming from the Memorial Student Center on Tuesday night.

The Black United Students and the Center for African American Students sponsored the first Black United Students Talent Night at Marco's in the basement of the MSC.

Fran L. Jackson, program assistant II for the Center for

African American Students, said she was excited about the talent show.

"This is the first time we have ever done this," she said. "We did it because we thought it would be fun for all of the students. This is a great opportunity for everyone to get together to showcase each others' talents, enjoy each other and celebrate black history."

The show was open to the public; about 60 to 70 people filled the room.

The sounds of talking and laughter could be heard as the final preparations were made before the show.

After a few announcements, the show began. Participants drew numbers out of a basket to determine what order they would go.

Eleven participants entertained the crowd with poems, songs and scriptures.

One of the poems was entitled "Let My People Go," and the different songs included "One Last Cry" and a version of

"The Lord's Prayer."

Jackson said the show was great.

"The turnout was really well, and I'm pleased with the number of participants," she said. "If this is done again in the future, it will be even bigger and better."

Crystal R. Richardson was one of the participants. Richardson, a sophomore health care management major from Charleston,

Please see **CELEBRATING, P3**

WHITMAN, Mass. (AP) — A Halifax woman has won \$1 million in the state lottery — again. Clara Reno claimed her prize for the second time Monday in the drawing. She hit the same jackpot in 1997. The 45-year-old manager at a manufacturing plant bought both tickets from a general store in Whitman. She said she will put some of the new prize money into investments and take a vacation.

Page edited by Carrie Smith

Clinton seeks tighter security on Web

by **SONYA ROSS**
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Calling the outburst of Internet attacks "obviously very disturbing," President Clinton is bringing technology experts and even a mysterious hacker named Mudge to the White House to look at ways to tighten security on the World Wide Web.

The initial idea of the session was to address the problem of terrorists using cyberspace. But Clinton says last week's attacks underscore a need for the government to focus on protecting the Internet itself.

"These denial-of-service attacks are obviously very disturbing and I think there is a way that we can clearly promote secu-



Clinton

ity," Clinton told CNN.com Monday in what was billed as the first online interview of a president. Among the participants in today's meeting is Mudge, nickname for a member of a "think tank" of hackers who perform security consulting under the name AtStake. A White House official was hush-hush about Mudge's role in the meeting, saying "We're not really discussing it."

The hacker and his colleagues testified to the Senate in 1998 about lax computer security, using their odd monikers. "The U.S. Senate referred to me as Mudge," he once said in an inter-

"These denial-of-service attacks are obviously very disturbing and I think there is a way we can clearly promote security."

Bill Clinton,
president

view. "Mom and Dad refer to me as Mudge. I figure, why break the streak?"

About 20 executives from technology companies, as well as academics and officials from the National Security Agency, also were invited to the meeting, said White House spokesman Joe Lockhart.

One challenge for vulnerable companies is how to share warnings on attacks without causing undue panic or releasing corporate secrets.

Managers of a recently formed warning network for banks said computer experts at some of the nation's largest financial institutions received detailed warnings of impending threats days before last week's attacks began on major sites such as Yahoo!, Buy.com, eBay and ETrade.

But banking officials never passed those warnings to the FBI or other law enforcement agencies, because they weren't allowed to do so under rules of the unusual security arrangement,

formed with the government's encouragement.

To encourage open participation by banks and other financial firms, the Treasury Department decided that information disclosed within such a network would not be turned over to federal regulators or law enforcement agencies.

The system worked well for the banks that were forewarned about the attacks last week but the system also ensured the same warnings were not widely distributed.

The banking network issued the first alert in the latest attacks Feb. 4, "when we started seeing certain machines being compromised," said William Marlow of Global Integrity Corp., which runs the network.

Yahoo! was attacked four days later.

The Washington Post said the FBI was preparing to question three possible suspects as early as Tuesday after authorities were able to link hackers' aliases to real names and addresses.

At the White House, Lockhart said the experts "will spend some time talking about the current situation and seeing if there is more we can do."

But he said the latest attacks would not dominate a discussion dealing more broadly with ways to tighten security without going overboard with government intervention.

"I think it's important that the American people not overreact to this," Clinton said. "We're into a whole new world with the Internet, and ... there are those who seek to take advantage of it."

Reform Party looking for stability, nominee

by **LAURIE KELLMAN**
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Reform Party's weekend of "wrestlemania" is turning to talk of nominating a Republican, Sen. John McCain, in the presidential race as leaders of Ross Perot's organization search for instant stability — and credibility.

"He sounds more like a Reform Party candidate than anyone else running," Rhode Island chairman Victor Moffitt said of McCain. "He would be a perfect candidate for our party."

Campaigning in South Carolina, McCain said he would accept the Reform nomination, but only after he had won the GOP's nod.

"Sure I would, as long as they know I'm the nominee of the Republican Party," McCain said. "I wouldn't seek their nomination if I were not the Republican nominee."

He also said, however, that the Reform Party's nationally televised melee over the weekend in Nashville, Tenn., left unclear whether the party had one base or two.

"I reach out to everybody, although from watching 'Headline News,' I'm not sure who you'd be reaching out to," McCain said.

The party's newly installed leaders insisted the free-for-all meeting had been "cathartic," a rightful uprising against figureheads hostile to Perot's vision of reform.

With Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura, his hand-picked nation-

"I think people are laughing at us. I'm having second thoughts; I'm thinking about going with another party, an independent party."

Jim Turpin,
Alabama chairman

al party chairman Jack Gargan and potential presidential candidate Donald Trump suddenly out, the organization was returned overnight to stability, Perot's allies said.

"The party's under control," declared newly installed National Chairman Pat Choate. "The sideshow is over."

Others said the nationally televised melee had dealt a major blow.

"I think people are laughing at us," Alabama chairman Jim Turpin, who attended the meeting, said by telephone from his home near Birmingham. "I'm having second thoughts; I'm thinking about going with another party, an independent party."

But no other political organization outside the Republican and Democratic parties will have \$12.6 million in federal matching funds to give a presidential candidate, nor such potential to influence the election this year, Reform leaders said.

Judicial elections may change

by **MARTHA BRYSON HODEL**
The Associated Press

CHARLESTON — A majority of state voters would like to see West Virginia change the way it chooses circuit judges and state Supreme Court justices, the West Virginia Poll released today shows.

Under existing law, judges and justices run for election as Democrats or Republicans. Sixty-four percent of the poll's respondents say the selection method should be changed.

Thirty percent of participants said they believe judges should be elected in nonpartisan balloting, while another 34 percent believe a committee should select judges based on their qualifications.

Norma Hartness, a Democrat from Cairó in Ritchie County, said she would like to see a shift to nonpartisan judicial elections.

"There are some people running on the Republican ticket that I would rather vote for than the ones on the Democratic ticket," Hartness said. "And because of the way our primary is, all I get is the Democratic ticket."

"I like to split my vote when

I can," she said.

Twenty-seven percent of poll participants said partisan elections should continue; 5 percent said some other unspecified method should be used, and 4 percent were undecided.

Republicans in the House of Delegates Tuesday announced their support for Republican Gov. Cecil Underwood's proposal to have Supreme Court justices run in nonpartisan elections.

It is unlikely the governor's bill will pass. Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin, D-Logan, said there is no support for it in the Senate, which consists of 29 Democrats and only five Republicans.

The poll also asked voters a number of tax-related questions: whether West Virginia should tax smokeless tobacco, whether payoffs from so-called "gray" video poker machines should be legalized and taxed, and whether military pensions should continue to be subject to state income tax.

Taxes should be applied to tobacco and gambling, said



Underwood

Elizabeth Snyder of Buckhannon.

"I say we should tax for all that stuff, especially tobacco," Snyder said.

"It's a very bad product, and anything else that harmful they would legislate out of existence."

"What we ought to have is an old-fashioned luxury tax. You have a choice whether you buy those items," she said.

The latest edition of The West Virginia Poll was conducted by the Center for Survey Research at Ohio State University for the Associated Press. It is based on 405 telephone interviews conducted Feb. 2-8 with registered voters from across the state.

Overall, the poll has a sampling error of not more than 4.9 percentage points in either direction.

W.Va. candidate for governor taken off ballot

CHARLESTON — Republican Charles Dixon cannot run for governor this year because he has not been a member of the GOP long enough, the Secretary of State's Office said Tuesday.

Dixon's Harrison County voter registration card indicates he was a Democrat from February 1948 until Dec. 27, 1999.

State law requires candidates to be members of their party for at least 60 days prior to filing for office. Dixon filed for the governor's race Jan. 28.

Dixon's candidacy was challenged by fellow Republican candidate Joseph Oliverio.

Dixon and Oliverio could not be reached for comment.

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Second chairperson to enhance LCOB

by TAMARA ENDICOTT reporter

A \$250,000 portion of Elizabeth McDowell Lewis' estate will be used to create a second chairperson position in the College of Business.

The Marshall University Foundation received the money last week.

When the first chairperson position was established, the minimum amount to create the position was \$250,000, said Sherry H. Asbury, executive director of the foundation.

"That gives them the opportunity to recruit faculty to hold that title of being the Elizabeth McDowell Lewis Distinguished Chair in the College of Business," Asbury said. "And

"This bequest will benefit many young West Virginians. It is a fitting part of her long legacy of support for Marshall."

Dr. J. Joe Mitchell, senior vice president for development and planning

that allows them to use the earnings off of this endowment to supplement their salary, or perhaps it could be that a requirement of theirs is they have to do so much research during a year."

The \$250,000 is invested and only the income generated by that investment is spent by the department, Asbury said.

"Marshall University has been the recipient of numerous gifts from Elizabeth McDowell during her lifetime," said Dr. J. Joe Mitchell, senior vice president for development and planning, in a press release. "We are honored that she would include Marshall University in her will. This bequest will benefit many young West Virginians. It is a fitting part of her long legacy of support for Marshall."

Elizabeth McDowell Lewis was the widow of former mining industry official, J. Edward Lewis. She lived in Oak Hill until her death at the age of 90 on June 1, 1999.

Celebrating Black History

■ From page 1

and an acappella rendition of "The Lord's Prayer."

She wasn't nervous about performing.

"I wasn't nervous," Richardson said. "I sing all the time. I sing in the Committed to Christ Gospel Choir at Marshall and at church."

Despite all of the talent, there were no awards given out for the best act.

"It's not about competition," Jackson said. "Just about fun."

ANNOUNCEMENT

Requests for essay, poetry, photography and graphic submissions for Other-Wise, Marshall's multidisciplinary student-focused magazine, have been postponed until further notice. The Office of Multicultural Affairs and International Programs is searching for new editors and plans to publish during the fall 2000 semester. Anyone interested can receive more information by calling 696-4677.

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Academy nominees announced

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — "American Beauty," led a diverse slate of Academy Award contenders with eight nominations Tuesday. "The Cider House Rules" and "The Insider" were right behind.

The three movies all received nominations for best picture along with "The Green Mile" and "The Sixth Sense."

"American Beauty's" other nominations included best actor and actress for Kevin Spacey and Annette Bening, director Sam Mendes, screenwriter Alan Ball for best original screenplay, as well as for cinematography, film editing and original score.

Besides best picture, "The Cider House Rules" received nominations for supporting actor Michael Caine, director

Lasse Hallstrom, adapted screenplay by John Irving from his own novel, as well as score, editing and art direction.

"The Insider" also received nominations for lead actor Russell Crowe, director Michael Mann, adapted screenplay, cinematography, editing and best sound.

Besides Crowe and Spacey, best actor nominations went to Richard Farnsworth in "The Straight Story," Sean Penn in "Sweet and Lowdown" and Denzel Washington in "The Hurricane."

Other lead actress nominees were Janet McTeer in "Tumbleweeds," Julianne Moore in "The End of the Straight Story," Meryl Streep in "Music of the Heart" and Hilary Swank in "Boys Don't Cry."

H.E.L.P. now available to kids

by ANGELA MYHRWOLD reporter

Marshall University's Higher Education Learning Problems (H.E.L.P.) program is reaching out to help young children in the community.

A new program called Community H.E.L.P. is going to get involved with school systems in the area. This is the first semester for the outreach and it will include elementary and middle students who need to be tested for or have already been diagnosed with a learning disability or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

"There have been many requests from people in the Huntington area to begin such

a program for our younger students," Barbara Guyer, director of the H.E.L.P. program, said.

Diane Williams, head of remediation for the H.E.L.P. program said, "There isn't anything in the community designed to help these types of children with problems. We have gotten numerous calls from parents seeking help who don't know where to go."

This program is designed to use different techniques to help improve reading, spelling and writing skills. It will include individual tutoring and will focus mainly on the use of multi-sensory phonics.

This is where the tutors will have students use as many of their senses as possible to improve spelling. For example,

the student will say "A" then say "apple" while holding one. Then the tutor will give the student a chance to taste an apple. With this, the student speaks, listens, touches and tastes.

All tutors for this program are people who have a master's degree in learning disabilities.

"The theory behind this is the more senses you get anything through the better you learn and understand," Williams said.

Reading comprehension will be remediated through the use of learning and mapping strategies as well as by the use of color-coding and visualization. This is the use of visual graphics.

Candidates debate issues

■ From page 1

tougher treatment of China.

"All three of us agree that the president has drug his feet" on the anti-ballistic missile system, Bush said.

Bush outlined a campaign finance proposal earlier in the day, but McCain, who has made reform the centerpiece of his campaign, said his rival's plan wouldn't do enough to stem the influence of big money. King broke in at one point to ask McCain whether a \$1 million contributor would find his phone call returned. "Sure, ask any ex-senator, they'll tell you," McCain said with a smile.

McCain caught Bush in a contradiction on abortion. He noted the Texas governor supports the Republican platform language on abortion from 1996, a plank that envisions no exceptions for a ban on abortions. Yet Bush has also said he favors exceptions for cases of

rape, incest and the life of a mother.

Keyes, who opposes all abortions, attacked both men. "One individual doesn't really accept the pro-life position of the party, and the other ... says he supports it and takes a position that is logically inconsistent."

Bush and McCain disagreed over tax cuts, as they have repeatedly, Bush saying that without his larger cut, money would go to Washington and be spent on bigger government. McCain has a smaller cut, and sets aside more money for Social Security.

McCain has attacked Bush's tax cut for providing too much relief for the wealthy, and said that was precisely the type of criticism that can be expected from Vice President Al Gore.

"Sounds exactly like Al Gore. See that's what he took offense of when I talked about Bill Clinton," McCain said, linking the issue back to the controversy over negative campaigning.

That issue had come up in the first several minutes of the debate, when King asked Keyes whether the campaign had

been "dirty."

McCain, a former Vietnam prisoner of war, complained that Bush's campaign had paid for an event at which a spokesman for a "fringe group" had attacked him for neglecting veterans. The same man years ago attacked Bush's father, the former president.

"I don't know if you can understand, this, George, but that really hurt. That really hurt," McCain said.

"Yeah," Bush said quietly.

"You should be ashamed of sponsoring an event with that man there who had attacked your own father," McCain continued.

"The man was not speaking for me ... if you want to know my opinion about you, John, you served our country strongly and admirably," Bush said.

But he then turned the tables on McCain, noting that one of his supporters, former Sen. Warren Rudman, had called members of the Christian Coalition bigots.

"He's entitled to his opinion," replied McCain, who did not disavow the alleged remark.



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THEIR view

Affirmative action creates problems

Staff Editorial
The Daily Athenaeum
(West Virginia University)

(U-WIRE) MORGANTOWN — The purpose of affirmative action has been fairly simple: give minorities an equal playing field with whites when it comes to education and job opportunities. The reality, however, hasn't been nearly as black-and-white.

No one can argue that life is just as easy for the average black or Hispanic as it is for the typical Caucasian. Racial prejudice is increasingly less of a problem, but the stigma of bigotry still hangs over our society like a cloud of doom.

So we have tried to form ways to deal with prejudice. We have written laws — good laws — to protect the rights of minorities. The Civil Rights Acts of 1964 was an important move in U.S. social history, marking a change in politics. No longer would politicians shrink from the thought of supporting minority rights.

Instead, they would begin falling over themselves to prove their devotion to equality for all.

But we took it all a few steps too far. Affirmative action has its foundation in good intentions, but the end result is discrimination of another kind, with a side of inadequacy for the very people it purports to be helping.

When you create a system which accepts and promotes people based on their skin color or racial affiliation, you are dabbling in prejudice. And even prejudice with good intentions reaps bad consequences.

Consider this. A black man applies for a computer job. His credentials are fairly good, but the white man beside him has an even more impressive resume. When, at the end of the interview process, the black man is awarded the job, can he really feel proud that the job was given to him to fulfill a quota, not because he earned it?

The same goes for any white person who receives a promotion because of his color. The good ol' boy system robs everyone of their dignity. So does affirmative action.

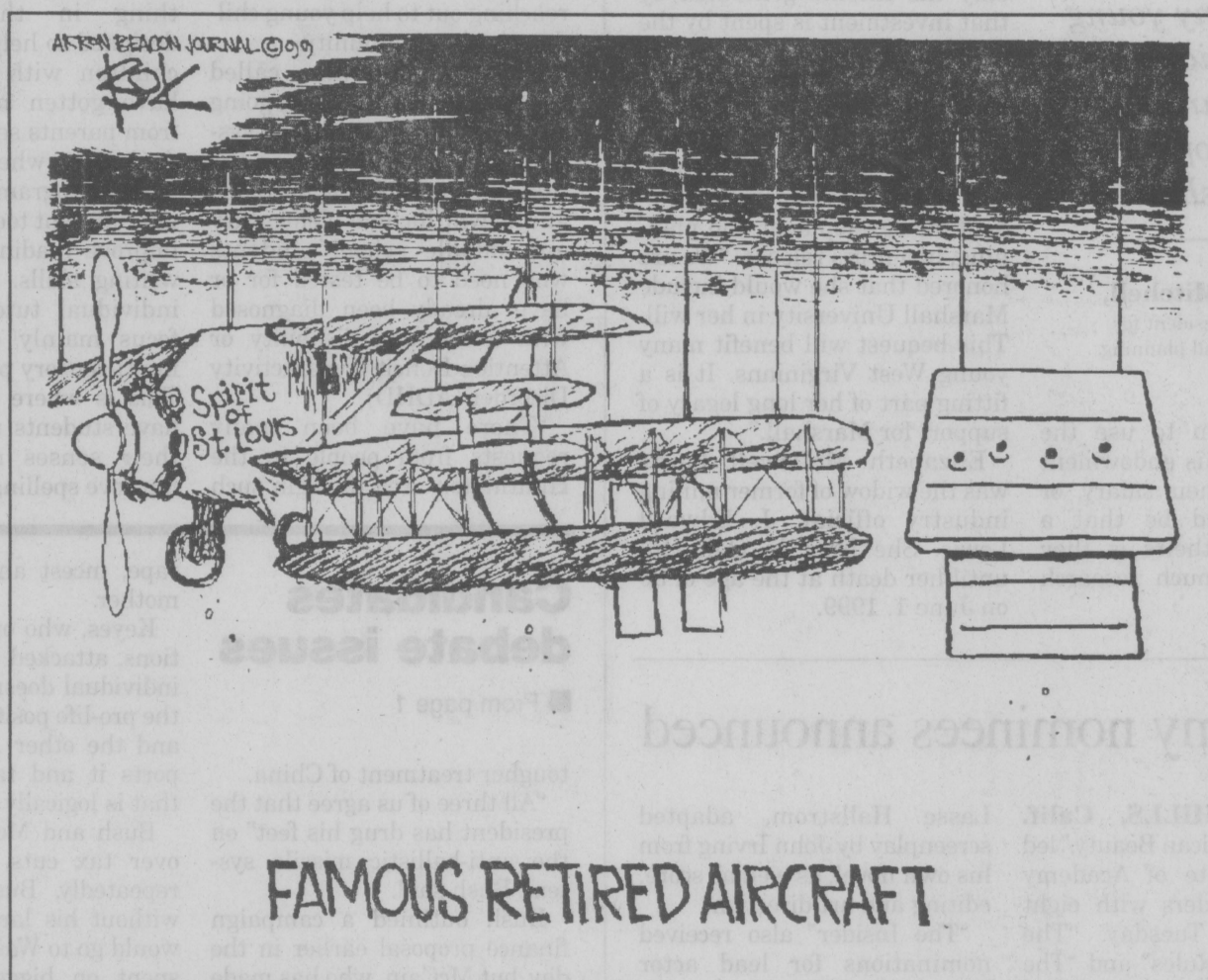
In the late 1990s, more Hispanics and blacks dropped out of high school than in the early part of the decade. Affirmative action was aimed to keep minorities in school and ensure that they would have jobs after graduation. But too many aren't getting there.

We reached a pinnacle in race relations. It isn't a level field, but most of the major bumps have been bulldozed through legislation and increased understanding. So now it's up to the minority communities to take up the challenge and keep their kids in school.

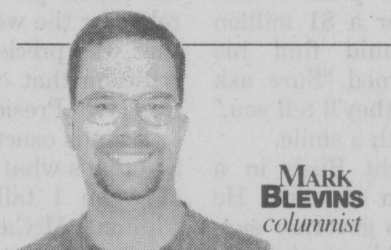
It has to be a two-way street. To have true equality of color, we must remove race from our interactions. The best way to achieve success in the U.S. is through a diploma.

Our country was built on hard work and determination, not free rides. Everyone — black, white — who is willing to get an education and put it to use deserves a chance. But we shouldn't use race to decide between them.

Affirmative action isn't the answer. Staying in school is.



NASCAR good, getting better



MARK BLEVINS
columnist

I'm really not much of a sports fan. Music is really where my interest is, but there is one sport that I am fond of and it's a sport that you won't find many people admitting they watch.

The sport is NASCAR, which is stock car racing for those of you who don't know. It could be because I'm from southern West Virginia and grew up watching NASCAR, but I for one cannot wait until the running of the Daytona 500.

NASCAR is a much maligned sport and it doesn't get very much coverage in this area, but there is more to it than car wrecks. I'll admit it's very hard to sit and watch an entire race when the cars are simply going around the track, but the cars are also passing each other at the same time. And when the races depend on fuel strategy, then they get pretty exciting.

NASCAR is not everyone's cup of tea, but I hate to hear people speak of it as nothing more than a bunch of rednecks with a lot of gas to waste. It does take skill to be able to drive a car 120 mph in a banked turn and it also takes skill to be able to perform a pit stop in under 20 seconds, which is what many NASCAR teams do several times in every race.

It's true that NASCAR started in the southern part of the United States, but drivers come from all over the country now. Many are from the north and some are from the west, which goes to show it's not just a regional pastime. It hasn't been very long since you couldn't even watch a race on television, but thanks to cable every Winston Cup race, which is the major leagues of NASCAR, is televised.

And things are getting better for the sport. NBC has bought the rights to carry many of the races this season and this should give even more of an audience for the sport. I almost feel like it's a bad thing that I watch races because they are so identified with negative stereotypes, but if people can admit to watching wrestling, which I also sometimes watch, I think I

can come out of the closet and say...

I'm a NASCAR fan.

Some people say the only good thing about a race is the wrecks, but that would be a sick reason to watch. Promoting a sport that has wrecks wouldn't be a good strategy to begin with and it's one that NASCAR hasn't used. Instead they promote the teamwork involved and the family atmosphere surrounding the drivers. The promotion could be a load of malarkey, but it's better than promoting someone getting the living daylights knocked out of them, as the NFL has done from time to time.

Maybe there are others on campus that enjoy NASCAR, but are afraid of the stigma they may face from admitting it. I think if we all "come out of the closet" it would be a good thing. I hope all other NASCAR fans will join with me in celebrating the virtues of a good race. And remember no driver has ever tried to strangle his crew chief.

Mark Blevins is a columnist for The Parthenon. Comments can be sent to him at 311 Smith Hall.

CAMPUS views

Letters sent to Campus View must not exceed 250 words. Opinion pieces longer than 250 words may be used as guest columns and published elsewhere on this page.

All I am saying is give 'kwee' a chance

"KWEEL!" Funny, or no? It really doesn't matter to me what position you support in this debate on the comedic value of a fat rodent with a limited vocabulary. What matters to me is how readers express their opinions on this matter. One detractor of not only the new cartoon, but of the entire staff and structure of The Parthenon, has caught my attention twice now. No, not because of his scholarly detractions of The Parthenon based on logical fallacy and journalistic error or his profound insight on how to improve editorials, newswriting, or the comedic and artistic value of the new comic strip, but because of his childlike defensiveness and testosterone driven insults.

In the first letter he attacks Mr. Harris and the poor, defenseless, metabolically challenged squirrel in his cartoon.

As a long time reader of Mr. Harris's work (both as a cartoonist and reporter) dating back to his days on the staff of The Pioneer (student newspaper at Wayne High School), I know that if readers (even Mr. Rhodes) give Mr. Harris a chance they will soon become supporters and faithful readers of "In the Crew."

In his second letter, Mr. Rhodes turns on editor-in-chief, Butch Barker. He feels threatened this time around because he feels there may be some inkling of a chance that someone maybe sort of possibly could have referred to him as a coward (although Mr. Barker's article made it clear enough to me that he was speaking to those authors who chose to remain anonymous). Again his defensiveness leads me to conclude that he also feels inadequate in this area and lives in anticipation that someone might question his manhood. Talk about someone sensationalizing! No one even came close to calling Mr. Rhodes a coward.

On a final note, I have a great respect for Mr. Harris, Mr. Barker and the rest of The Parthenon staff who have the balls to put their work and opinions before the entire student body every day at the risk of being detracted by the readers they are trying to reach. Thank you, Parthenon, for keeping us informed, sharing your opinions, providing a forum for Mr. Rhodes and myself to express ours, and respecting everyone's.

— Justin Murdock,
Lavalette freshman

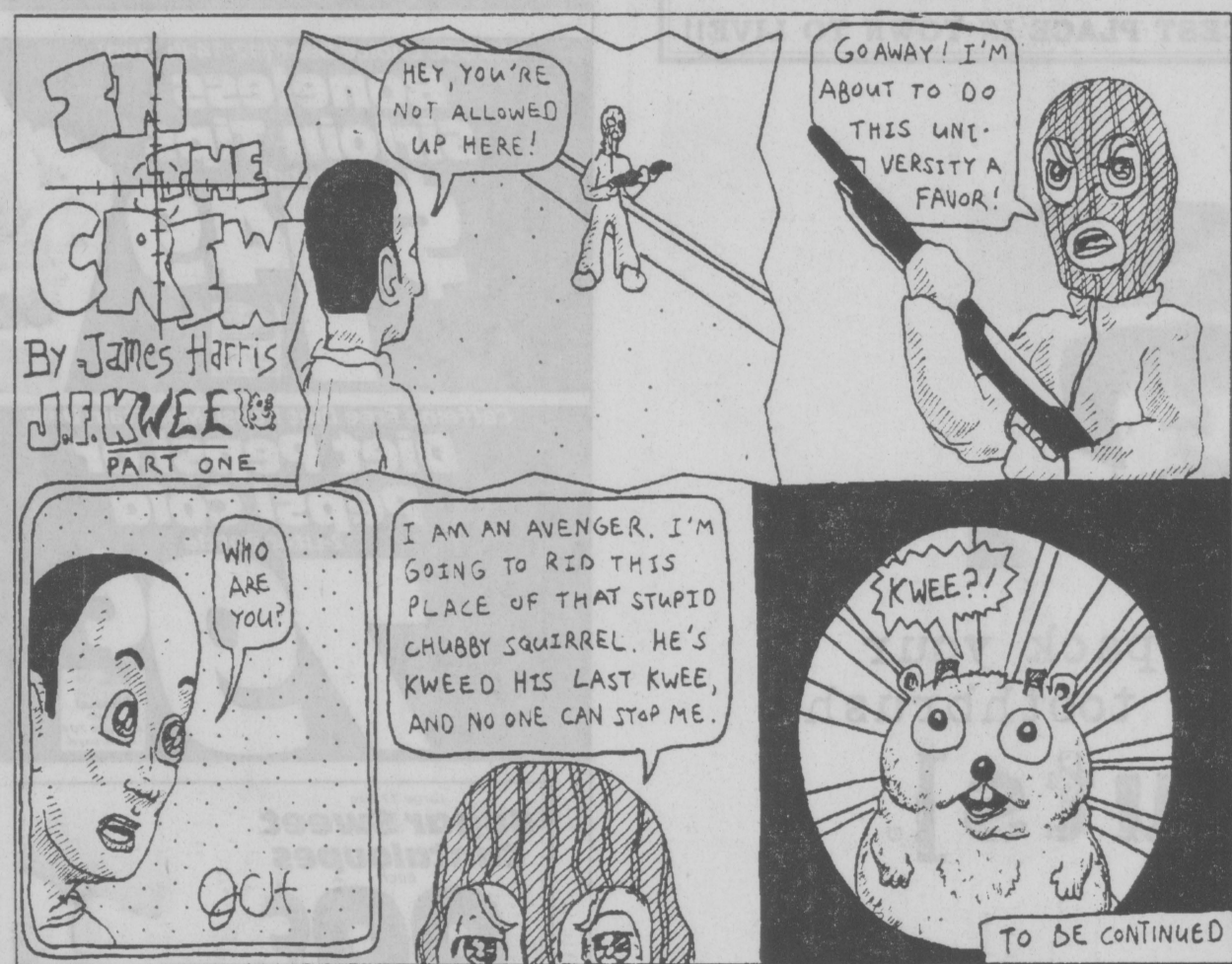
Student wants to see sanctions for gay bashers

It has come to my attention that certain individuals have expressed (both verbally and physically) a severe aversion to the presence of homosexual and bisexual students at Marshall. One such individual even went as far as to write a letter to this very paper in which he essentially claimed that homosexuality is inherently evil, unsurprisingly choosing to remain anonymous and sign, in place of a cognomen, simply "Fag basher."

I must say, this strikes me as awfully trite (not to mention extremely offensive); can't bigots at least be more "creative" about their totally irrational and unjustified hatred (which stems, of course, purely from deep-seated ignorance, fear and insecurity) of non-heterosexuals? I mean, if they're going to make outrageous, entirely unfounded claims about the "intrinsic wickedness" of such people, they could at least attempt to be somewhat original and innovative in doing so. Why not substitute for the exceedingly banal (no pun intended) "Fag Basher" something really flamboyant and eye-catching like "Loather of All Which is Unspeakably Wretched" or "Bona Fide Aspiring Plumber and On-Campus Homophobe"? All you narrow-minded, backward, hopelessly inelegant homophobes out there could at least do those you so intensely despise the mere courtesy of introducing some "humor" into your utterly inexcusable intolerance.

On a more serious note, I call upon the university officials whose duty it is to punish the offenders in question, to exercise their authority and carry out that duty. It would disturb me to no end to attend a university which permits such atrocious behavior. So, I say to every student and faculty member as well: Do not be passive in a matter as grave as this; do not shirk your own responsibility to confront and correct, wherever possible, every instance of such behavior which you encounter; do not allow innocent students to be persecuted for having lifestyles which a benighted few deem improper. By neglecting to act, you tacitly endorse that persecution, and have no right to expect freedom from any similar injustice to which you yourself may one day be subjected.

— Steven J. Conifer
sophomore



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Marshall baseball ready to improve

by **KIRK D. LIGHTNER**
reporter

Marshall baseball gets back into the swing of things this weekend when the team opens its season at the University of Georgia. The Thundering Herd is coming off a disappointing season in which it finished 12-43-1 overall and 4-26-1 in the Mid-American Conference. Marshall is led by second-year head coach Dave Piepenbrink whose career record is 21-64-1.

Piepenbrink took over midway through the 1998 season after Craig Antush resigned. "Last year was an eye opening experience for me because I was forced to learn quick on the job," Piepenbrink said. "We played a lot of young guys last year, so hopefully that will help us this year because they will have some experience." Eric Pinkerton, the tight end who made the game-winning touchdown catch against Western Michigan in the MAC

Championship, will lead the Thundering Herd. "I am excited to play and I am looking forward to this season," Pinkerton said. "Practice is going great and the team is ready to get started." Marshall lost several experienced players the past two years. "The loss of Aaron Williams will be tough for us to replace," Piepenbrink said. "We need guys to step in and fill the role and get the job done." Williams won the Jack Cook

MVP Award in 1999 and was Marshall's leading hitter with a .369 average. He also set the school's single season stolen base record with 33 steals that season. Pinkerton is expected to lead the way after finishing with team-highs of nine home runs and 38 runs batted in a year ago. He also posted a team-best .570 slugging percentage and a .971 fielding percentage in 335 chances at first base. "I am concentrating on having a good year and just letting

the ball fly," Pinkerton said. Piepenbrink hopes the balls won't be flying off the end of the opposition's bats. "If we have one major concern it's in our pitching," he said. Reeder will be Marshall's top starter this year. He led Thundering Herd pitchers in almost all categories last season. Reeder recorded six wins and seven complete games in 95 innings, while setting a single season school record with 107 strikeouts.

"The way it looks right now we will have a four-man rotation," Piepenbrink said. "Chris Wean is stepping in and looking good so hopefully he can help us out this season." The Thundering Herd begins its home season March 4-5 against North Carolina A&T. "We are anxious to get started but we have a lot of work ahead of us," Piepenbrink said. "We hope to improve on last year and get the ball rolling in the right direction."

Spring intramurals thriving Competition, participation up

by **JAY M. MORLACHETTA**
reporter

Coming to the end of the sixth week of classes, intramural sports are in full swing and competition is intense. A high level of student participation, in intramural basketball in particular, has created a competitive and exciting atmosphere for the season, said Sharon Stanton, assistant director of intramural sports and fitness activities. "We could offer basketball all year, and there would still be a very high level of participation," she said. She said that basketball is one of the most popular intramural sports each year. Stanton has taken on extra duties with the programs since Tom Lovins, former director of intramural sports and fitness activities, left to take a position at Penn State University as director of recreational sports.

"Actually I do the administrative part, and graduate students do all the work," Stanton said. She said the fitness center is operated by graduate students. Addressing the facility issue, Stanton said the schedule is crowded and the staff is limited in its efforts. An increasing interest in fitness has made it more difficult to accommodate everyone, she said. "Our schedules are maxed out, which is great," Stanton said about the overcrowding. Stanton said she is excited about future intramural special events. She said efollett.com is sponsoring the Super Hoops 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament at 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17 in the Gullickson Hall gym. Stanton said there is no entry fee, but students must register in the recreational sports office. The first place teams from the men's and women's divisions will travel to the Mid-Atlantic

efollett.com 3 on 3 Super Hoops Regional Tournament at James Madison University, Feb. 26-27. "It would be nice to send a good representative to compete at James Madison," Stanton said. A coed volleyball tournament is scheduled Feb. 20 in the Gullickson Hall gym. Entry fee is \$15 per person, or \$10 with a Marshall ID. Stanton wants students and faculty to be aware of an open meeting taking place after a 5 p.m. indoor soccer manager's meeting in Gullickson Hall 18 on Feb. 22. "We want students and faculty to come and discuss problems and ideas about intramural sports," Stanton said. She said that enabling students to voice their concerns will help improve an already successful program. More information is available by calling the Department of Recreational Sports at 696-6477 or by calling 697-0330.

Herd prepares for road stretch

by **MICHELLE JAMES**
reporter

The Thundering Herd women's basketball team, 7-17 overall and 5-7 in the conference, will try to rebound from a 79-68 weekend loss to Ohio as it goes on the road to take on Mid-American Conference foe Akron (7-14 overall and 3-7 in conference play) at 7 p.m. Thursday. Five Marshall players posted double-digit scoring efforts in the loss. Freshman center Amy Reed and sophomore forward Au'Yana Ferguson led the Herd in scoring with 15 points each.

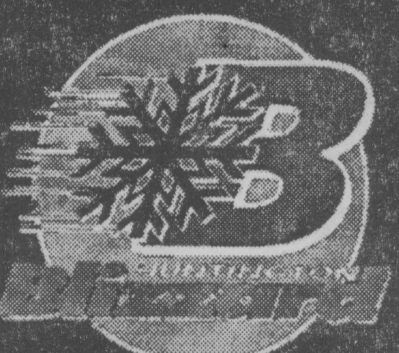


Simpson

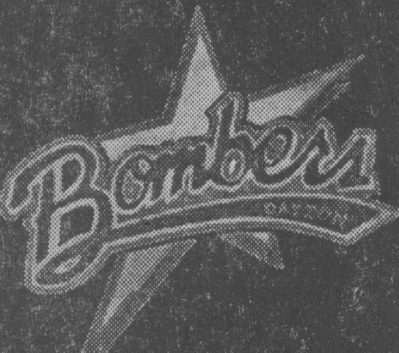
Reed, who came into the game after scoring a season-high 20 points against Ball State Wednesday night, said her goal was simply to get some points on the board. "I got the ball a lot again in

the post," Reed said. "I just looked to go to the hole and get something going on offense." Also in double figures for the Thundering Herd were junior forward Yashico Stevens and junior guard Marissa Williams who poured in 11 points each. Junior guard Toni Patillo scored 10 points in the loss. Marshall, which did not score until 11:42 into the contest, fell behind early as Ohio, (10-13 overall and 5-7 in the MAC) powered by the strong, early performance of sophomore forward Lori Moorman, jumped out to a 10-0 lead just over eight minutes into the contest. Although the Thundering Herd pulled within seven with just under eight minutes to play in the first-half, the Bobcats surged ahead, taking a 35-22 into the locker room. After trailing by as much as 23 in the second half, Marshall went on a run of their own, pulling to within seven with 3:05 remaining in the contest. The Bobcats would not be

denied however, as they handed the Herd its third consecutive MAC loss. Despite the loss, Ohio coach and former Marshall assistant Lynn Bria said Marshall has the potential to be one of the best teams in the conference. "I thought that in comparing the two times we played this year, Marshall was much better tonight," Bria said. "I think Marshall is the most athletic team in the conference. They are very aggressive and played a hard game. They have enormous potential." Herd coach Juliene Simpson continues to be optimistic, yet realistic, about the remainder of Marshall's season. "When you're building a program, the sun doesn't shine anymore special on you," Simpson said. "When things aren't consistent, you run into frustration. "We just didn't get the breaks. We'll keep working harder. We're right there at the end of the tunnel."



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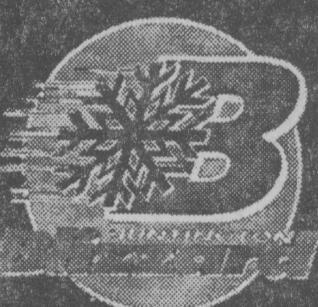
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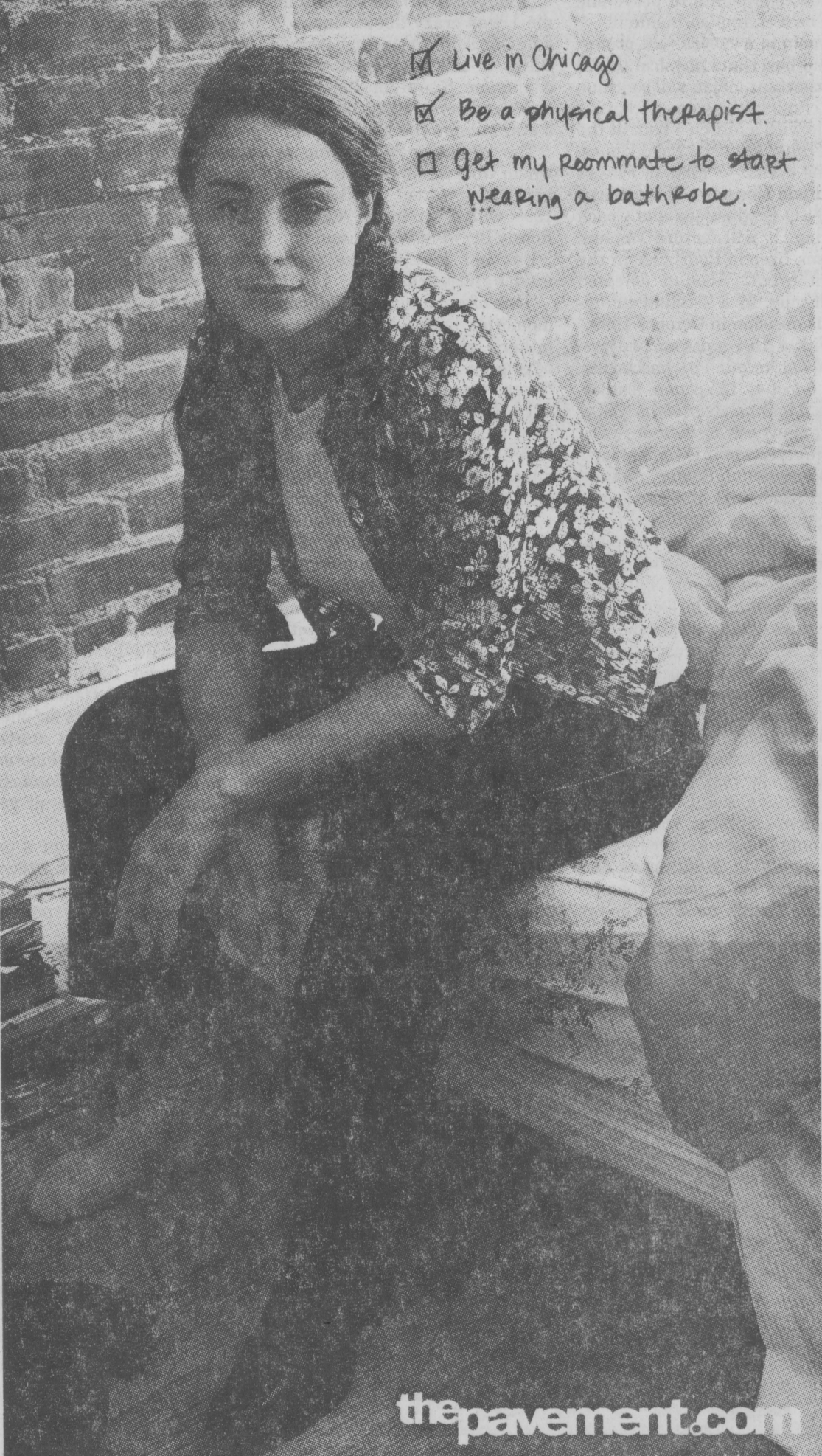
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She's got the LOOK — and the HOOK

Marshall student rising in ranks of women's boxing

Story by AARON E. RUNYON
Photos by TERRI BLAIR

As the homecoming queen and a stand-out softball player at Burch High School, Angie "The Assassin" Woolum has always possessed the qualities of a star outside the ring.

Now, she wants to prove she can be a champion inside it.

Woolum, a 22-year-old professional boxer and physical therapy assistant major, will continue her climb in the women's boxing circle with a March 4 bout at the Veterans Memorial Field House.

The event — "Fists of Fire at the Field House" — is sponsored by TKO Productions and Coach Boxing. It will feature Woolum versus Brenda Rodriguez in the main event. Woolum defeated Rodriguez in a 4-round unanimous decision in October 1999.

With a 15-1 amateur and professional record (10 knockouts), the 5-foot-4, 125-pound featherweight has members of the boxing community setting their sights on her prospects of title contention.

International Boxing Association President Dean Chance said the upcoming fight could aid Woolum in her climb to prominence and eventual contention.

"I've heard nothing but good things about her," he said. "If she continues being successful she could be a true prospect. This fight is a great opportunity for her to gain more experience and the national exposure will come."

Her manager, John Johnson, is seeking that exposure.

"Angie's for real," said Johnson, manager of Coach Boxing organization in Columbus, Ohio. "We're planning to put together three or four fights in Huntington and then fight for a world championship. There's no doubt in my

mind she can do it. This girl is beautiful, but she can flat fight."

Johnson guided James "Buster" Douglas to a title in the fighter's 1990 upset of heavyweight champion "Iron" Mike Tyson. He compared Woolum's rising status to that of his former champion.

"Everybody in the world told me I was crazy about Buster," Johnson said. "Angie has everything it takes to be a world champion. She's got the great looks and personality to become a star outside the ring as well."

The 20-foot-by-20-foot ring is where Woolum shines. She began her boxing career in February 1998, with a win in the Ruff and Rowdy Brawl in Williamson.

But her love for the sport wasn't always there.

"One of my earliest childhood memories is sitting beside my father's chair as he watched boxing on television," she said. "There were so many nights I fell asleep by his chair hoping he would change the channel."

The Delbarton native was an all-area selection in basketball and softball during high school.

Woolum went to the University of Rio Grande to play softball in the spring of 1996, but returned home after that semester.

Woolum won a powerlifting competition in Ravenswood with a bench press of 125 pounds and, after attending the Ruff and Rowdy Brawl in Williamson in 1997, decided she would begin to train after watching several unimpressive women's bouts.

She continued her amateur career under trainer and former professional boxer Cary Lee Hatfield of Charleston.

In October 1999, Woolum began her professional career under trainer Jim Brown.

"If she didn't have everything it took I would tell her otherwise," said Johnson, who also guided former contender Alexander Zolkin to the brink of the title. "She's the coolest athlete I've ever managed and she has proved a lot to me against some of the toughest competition out there."

Woolum fought top-ranked featherweight opponent Beverly Szymanski in February 1999, losing her only match in a unanimous decision.

"Angie dealt with all the pressure a young fighter could be handed that night," Johnson said. "And we're talking about an opponent that was former world champion and still rated in the Top 10. She showed a lot of heart. At the end of the night the crowd was yelling 'Angie, Angie.'"

The loss motivated Woolum. "There's not a day that goes by where I don't think about that loss," she said. "It has done nothing but improve the intensity of my training. Hopefully it won't happen again."

With the help of Brown it may not. The Barboursville native and former welterweight amateur, operates the Seconds Out boxing center in his hometown.

Meeting Brown at Huntington's YMCA helped the then-brawler take it to the next level.

Brown said he admired the inexperienced fighter's desire and willingness to learn.

"I was holding mitts for one of the guys and she just starting hitting them," he said. "I instantly saw she had powerful punches and speed and an overall good technique to begin with."

With a background in a predominantly male sport, Brown's work with Woolum is a first.

"This is my first experience



Jim Brown, Angie Woolum's trainer and former welterweight amateur, tapes his fighter's hands before lacing her 8-ounce gloves at Brown's Seconds Out boxing center in Barboursville.

with women's boxing," said Brown, who has been involved with the sport since 1967. "I can honestly say I was surprised with the talent she possessed."

Woolum scored eight knockouts in her unblemished 13-0 record as an amateur.

"All of my amateur knockouts came with the left hand," she said of her sharp left hook.

Brown added, "She can hurt you with her left hand and her right hand. She has a lot of speed and power to go with her talent."

Woolum's crisp left and stiff right will lead her to title contention, Johnson said.

"She can hurt people with that right," he said. "In her professional debut, she put a girl face-first into the canvas with it."

Her strength has its drawbacks. Finding sparring partners has proven difficult. Brown and Woolum often make trips to Columbus to find them.

"It's not hard to find guys to spar, but they generally outweigh me," she said. "I'll spar anyone."

Rodriguez (0-2) is not as intimidated as would-be sparring partners, Woolum said.

"(Rodriguez) said she would fight me in my own kitchen," Woolum said.

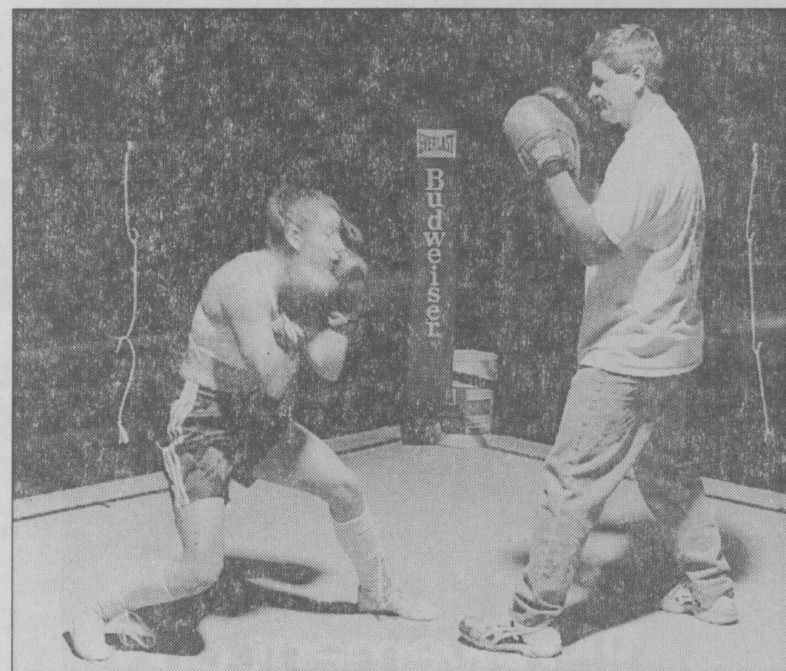
Johnson said Rodriguez landed a punch that stunned Woolum in their first fight.

"Angie put her down early in the fight, but Rodriguez nailed her with a right hand that knocked her backwards," he said. "She's been waiting for a rematch ever since that night."

"It's not going to be a walk in the park."

Woolum wants to show her skills for the city and university.

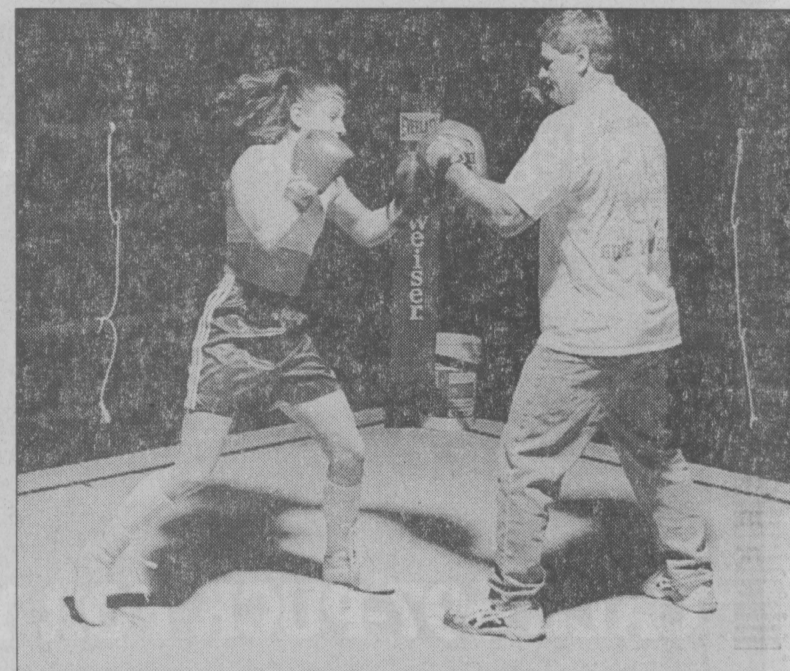
"The main purpose is to get Marshall students out," she said. "If the knockout comes, it comes. If not, I'm going to show people I can box."



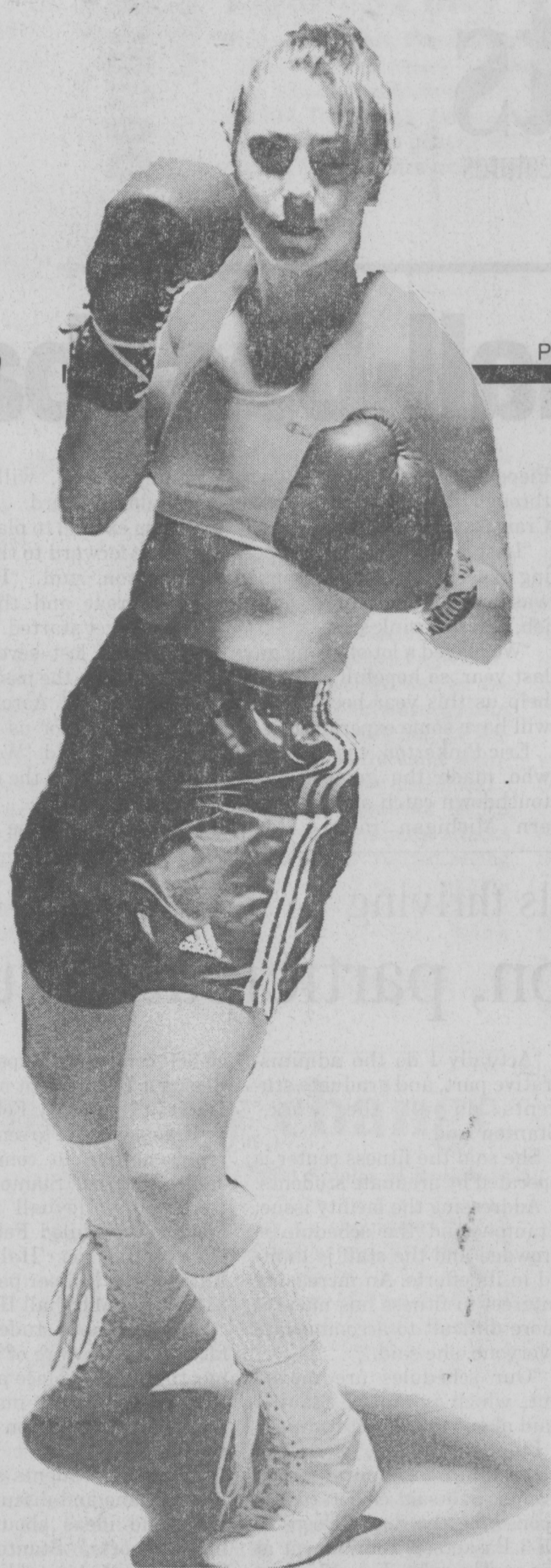
Angie Woolum moves into an offensive crouch as her left foot closes the distance to her opponent. Then, the featherweight's



torso twists as she redirects her momentum to throw the sharp left hook. Next, Woolum follows through with her lower body,



turning her left foot inward to direct the power behind the punch. All of her amateur knockouts came from the vicious left-hook.



Tale of the Tape

Name: Angie "The Assassin" Woolum
Height: 5-foot-4
Weight: 125 pounds
Reach: 64"
Age: 22
Total record: 15-1
Knockouts: 10
Hometown: Delbarton
Division: featherweight
Manager: John Johnson
Trainer: Jim Brown